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CURRENT REACTION REPORT

- 1. CORREO JUNE 23 CARRIES AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED, "LAW OF THE SEA IN THE UNITED NATIONS."
- 2. THE EDITORIAL BEGINS: "THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE III CONFERENCE OF THE ORGANIZATION ON LAW OF THE SEA IS ON THE VERGE OF FAILURE, ACCORDING TO NEWS REPORTS...

AS IN THE CASE OF THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE HELD IN PARIS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS AND A HOPE OF UNDERSTANDING IN THIS MEETING IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE INTRANSIGENT POSITION OF THE RICHER AND MORE HIGHLY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES."

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3. CORREO CONTINUES: "THE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM THAT IS ENCOUNTERED IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A NEW LAW OF THE SEA --PART OF WHICH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE ADOPTION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF THE 200 MILE TERRITORIAL AND ECONOMIC SEA, A PERUVIAN THESIS PROPOSED, PLACED INTO PRACTICE AND DEFENDED BY OUR COUNTRY FOR THREE DECADES-- IS THAT OF A REGIMEN OF EXPLOITATION OF THE SEA BOTTOMS

IN WHICH THERE ARE ENORMOUS RICHES AWAITING. THEY ARE PRINCIPALLY THE SO-CALLED 'MODULES,' CONCENTRATED MINERALS THAT CONTAIN MANGANESE, COLBALT, COPPER AND NICKEL. THEY ARE SOMETIMES FOUND AT A PROFUNDITY OF TWO OR THREE MILES, ACCORDING TO PROFESSOR PONTECORVO OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY."

- 4. "IN THE CONFERENCE, THAT STARTED MAY 23 IN NEW YORK, AND THAT WILL GO ON FOR EIGHT WEEKS, THE POSITIONS OF THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL-IZED COUNTRIES, HEADED BY THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN, WILL BE COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE THIRD WORLD," ACCORDING TO CORREO.
- 5. "THE INDUSTRIAL POWERS WANT, IN PRACTICE, THAT THEY BE ALLOWED FREE EXPLOITATION OF THESE RESOURCES, AND MORE THAN THIS, BY THE GREAT CONSORTIUMS, THE BIG TRANSNATIONAL POWERS. THE THIRD WORLD MAINTAINS, ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT THOSE RESOURCES, THAT ARE LYING BEYOND JURISDICTIONAL WATERS OF COUNTRIES, IN WHAT WE COULD CALL THE 'COMMON SEA,' ONLY SHOULD BE EXPLOITED BY AN ORGANISM THAT REPRESENTS ALL NATIONS, IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THOSE RICHES FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND, AND IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THEM AGAINST INDISCRIMINATE LOOTING THAT COULD BE PERPETRATED BY MONOPOLISTIC CONSORTIUMS," SO SAYS CORREO.
- 5. THE EDITORIAL OBSERVES, "BETWEEN THESE TWO EXTREMES IN THE CONFERENCE, THERE ARE THE EVIDENT EFFORTS OF THE THIRD WORLD TO OBTAIN POSITIVE RESULTS, BEING FLEXIBLE IN ITS POSITION, BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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WITHOUT CONCESSIONS THAT WOULD WEAKEN ITS POSITION."

6. CORREO CONCLUDES: "AS FOR PERU, ITS POINT OF VIEW HAS BEEN REITERATED CLEARLY BY PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ AND FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA PUENTE: WE MUST FIGHT FOR AN INSTRUMENT THAT PROTECTS THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON EXISTING RESOURCES IN THE AREA OF THE SEA BEYOND THE ZONES OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION, IN PARTICULAR, THOSE OF MINERAL PRODUCING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES, THAT WOULD BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED ECONOMICALLY BY EXTRACTION OF THE RICHES OF THE SEA BOTTOMS WITHOUT A MECHANISM OF CONTROL AND OF COMPENSATION THAT ASSURES THE PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THIS FIELD. THIS IS THE THESIS OF OHE THIRD WORLD." UNQTE VANCE

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Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009

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